

RENNANS'

have been re-
smart, new cre-
Ties, Mufflers,
Pins, Dressing
other hints.

BROS.

lishers
ATHERINE ST. EAST
Phone East 246

us Pictures
Framing.
types. Price 15 ct. each.

Are You Poisoning Yourself?

THE bowels must move freely every day, to insure good health. If they do not, the waste is absorbed by the system and produces a self blood poisoning. Poor digestion, lack of bile in the intestines, or weak muscular contraction of the bowels, may cause Constipation. Abbey's Effervescent

Salt will always cure it. Abbey's Salt renews stomach digestion—increases the flow of bile—and restores the natural downward action of the intestines.

Abbey's Salt will stir up the liver, sweeten the stomach, regulate the bowels, and thus purify the blood.

Good in all seasons for all people.

Abbey's
Effervescent Salt
At Dealers - 25c. and 60c.

Echoes and Remarks.

How often do you pray before the Crib?

We hope our readers will call on our advertisers. When you do call, please tell them you saw it in the True Witness. Every little helps.

A late renegade with the honest and honored name of Charles Blake Murphy was cremated the other day. Freemasons, of course, were in charge.

Two or three very brilliant contributors are going to appear regularly in our columns. We are certainly being encouraged by the support we are getting from sources we value and appreciate.

Whatever Ralph Connor's value as a novelist, may be, he is, we think, a firm believer in miracles, or ought to be, seeing how wonderfully he has his heroes and heroines turn up unexpectedly, in "The Forger."

How can our good Anglican friends call their church Catholic, or universal. Is it not necessarily English? Did the American revolution not prove what we say? Imagine the Germans submitting to the Establishment! Anglicanism is the reverse of Catholicism.

In answer to a correspondent as to whether we believe Protestants are sincere, we must leave the question to our Eternal Judge. We have known hundreds of good Protestants, and should be much surprised to hear they were or are not sincere. "Judge not and you shall not be judged."

Protestantism, as a system, we know to be wrong. There is only one true Church. But our good Protestant friends are not willing to admit we are right. Let us hope they will never judge our Church by bad Catholics. We honestly warn them to beware of leaving their purse within reach of "sugar-coated" Catholics.

It is really surprising to see how easily the first-comer may impose upon many, very many, of our non-Catholic friends. The first scamp or scoundrel the Church throws overboard has just to tell lies about us and our clergy, when he is hard up for money, and his pockets are filled. We hate to think the money is spent just for the sake of hearing the Church calumniated. Anglicans, in the vast majority, are above low tactics.

The English Saturday Review—not the Toronto Saturday Night—has taken sides with the Bishops of France against the sink-schools of Briand, Combes, and Clemenceau. We wonder what that coward, former President Loubet, thinks of his ugly work now. Honest men, such as those responsible for the Saturday Review, have no use for either villains of presidential nullities of the kind we Catholics denounce. The Saturday Night is their friend, and they are welcome to the honor.

Mr. A. T. Richards in yesterday's Gazette asks permission to suggest to another correspondent of the same paper (a Jew) that Christianity has added something to Judaism; that this addition is found in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, in which divine life is imparted to every partaker who has made due preparation by prayer and fasting. We would also ask permission to suggest that he make a good confession to a duly authorized priest in order to free his soul from mortal sin, even that of heresy.

"The day of song," says Sir Bernard Bourke, "like the day of so

many other things that once made the charm of life, has gone by; the poet's verse was too light and tinkling a sound to be heard amidst the clang of hammers employed in fashioning steam engines." Our civilization is giving us Anarchists, "Dreadnoughts," "Suffragettes," jails and penitentiaries, trusts and combines, more false religions, immoral universities, "White Slave Traffic"; while art and literature must thrive on the past, or starve.

"Cremation," remarks Father Phelan, "has been declared anti-Christian by the highest court of Austria. Cremation is the 'Finis' closing the book of an irreligious and materialistic life. The decision is based on the ground that it is opposed to the Christian ideal of burial. Cremation implies a public profession of irreligion and materialism. Its first partisans were the Freemasons of Italy. Four years ago there were ninety cremations in Europe. The United States is credited with three of these plants." Our own Montreal crematory is anything but a success. We have not enough atheists in Montreal as yet. Our modern pagans believe in it, and that is only natural.

Notwithstanding the fact that T. P. O'Connor has declared himself in favor of Mr. Asquith's utterances as to self-government for Ireland, the usual quota of cranks have had to voice their displeasure with "Tay Pay" and John Redmond. One would think such people as the cranks in question knew as much as the first word about British politics, to hear them talk. We prefer, however, to be guided by the Nationalists; while all the other cranks, with the Seinfelders ("Shinn-Faners") are good for is to keep up the glorious work of Dublin Castle, by playing the part of the goat on the plank. We know what their like did in O'Connor's day, and while Parnell did his best, we know how the deodend, inglorious ilk tried to ruin John Redmond; we know what spies, informers, and sassenachs have cost us; we know how the Castle pennies were spent, and we know what the fomenters of discord and disunion are, trying to do now. We know what the enemies of the Land League were like, and how little John Redmond's critics have been willing to contribute for Ireland's cause. We are heartily sick of them, heartily sick of the foolish anti-Redmondite organs, and of all the "Shinn-Faners" from the Atlantic to the Pacific and in Ireland.

THE COMING CONTEST.

Our much esteemed contemporary, the New Freeman may always be relied upon for its thorough interest in the cause of Ireland's national freedom. Dealing with the "Coming Contest" in Great Britain and Ireland, our St. John exchange says editorially: "In view of the approaching holidays of Christmas and New Year, we convey our most hearty greetings and best wishes to Ireland, and especially do we express a sincere wish that ere long the noble, century-long contest for Home Rule, shall be crowned, by the obtaining of a National Parliament for College Green, Dublin. We trust, indeed that in the forthcoming political struggles, Ireland in all its eighty Nationalist strongholds shall stand as one man—a united Ireland. The present party, led by Mr. John Redmond, is the official National party. The Irish in the United States realize this. Although the men composing the party can compare very favorably with anybody of statesmen in the world, yet it is not chiefly a matter of men, but of measures, not of persons but of principles, and for this reason the Irish Americans have deliberately decided to support the present official Irish party by giving a pronounced support to their delegates. Mr. T. P. O'Connor. Every sincere patriot and every real patriot will

realize the need of absolute unity, while crossing the stream, or rather the torrent of such an election as England, Ireland, and Scotland are now preparing for. It is the psychological moment in Ireland's political history, and if unhappy faction feeling could be now introduced by the Unionist on others the result would prove a political disaster. Messrs. Lloyd-George and Winston Churchill have the supreme merit of knowing their own minds, and if duly supported by the Irish they will be strong enough to do right towards the Nationalists, in spite of the Radical and Nonconformist wing of the Party.

The friends of Ireland in Canada of all nationalities know from experience the advantages and the necessities of a Home Rule Government and for that they sympathize with the peaceful but determined agitation which Mr. Redmond's party has made for so many years towards the obtaining of a Home Rule Parliament for Dublin, such as Canada has at Ottawa. This ambition of Irish Nationalists seems to Canadians and Australians, a just and moderate proposition. Because of all this it would seem a political tragedy if political schemers could in any way weaken the Liberal and National forces in Ireland at such a time. Not for seven hundred years has it been more necessary for Ireland to speak, and act, and vote as one man than it will be in the coming election. Mr. Lloyd-George said the other day of the Unionists: "We have them at last." Yes, and Ireland—cheated, betrayed, depopulated Ireland, persecuted and trampled, Ireland oppressed politically and religiously for unnumbered years, will from its eighty Liberal citadels ring out a stern approval of the Chancellor's war-cry: "We have them at last." This election will recall the memories of every Liberal statesman, from Gratton and O'Connell, to Gladstone. The present struggle will be as great as any in the history of the British Isles, and Irishmen everywhere hope that Home Rule may be one result for Ireland."

JUDGE CANNON'S REPORT.

If ever a Royal Commissioner has faithfully done his duty he could not do it more fully and faithfully than has Judge Cannon, in investigating corruption in Montreal civic life, and in reporting what he found wrong. His report is, indeed, no testimonial of merit awarded us and our city. It is plain that highwaymen have acted with authority over us all, and thousands of dollars have been either squandered, plundered, or misappropriated. We were fast asleep, and had things gone on our very jail might have been battered for unjust gain.

The daily papers have told us, and are still telling us, enough, and, alas! too truthfully! Every honest citizen of Montreal should feel ashamed and indignant at what we have all so long tolerated. We have not had the common courage of trying to save our purse from the desperado; on the contrary, we have praised and pampered him. We have had enough corruption? Are we, at length, convinced that the Star, La Patrie, the Herald, La Nationaliste, La Croix, the Witness and other papers were right in denouncing corruption in high places? Are we going to start life anew in February, or are we agreed to pay taxes, and get only half our money's worth in return? Have we not had more than we want of plunder and mischief? Yes! Yes! The coming civic elections shall, we feel sure, set all things right. Montreal and its citizens are not sworn to the duty of fattening the purses of thieves. But, while we blame, let us praise the faithful adherents of whom the Star says: "In the present City Council are a number of faithful servants. There are men there to-day who have rendered heroic and honorable service to their constituents in the face of difficulties which may have been imagined, but could hardly be realized, until the investigation was held. The electors, even those who have neglected to keep track of civic affairs, will have no difficulty in distinguishing between the faithful and the unfaithful; the innocent and the guilty. The records of the votes in the Council and its Committees are indestructible. An old proverb tells us that 'Birds of a feather flock together,' and another one reminds us that 'Men are known by the company they keep.' The present aldermen must stand or fall by the division lists they have helped to make!"

Now, this criticism is offered in the best of faith, and we are very thankful to Father Smith, who, with his well-known moral courage, has awakened us all to our duty. Necessarily, some will not agree with all we say. We know that, but cannot help it. It is time we should remember that scores of young men are being lost through bad books, who, with their love of reading, could be saved through the instrumentality of good Catholic books. Our authors are doing well. We are holding our own in the English-speaking world, when all things are considered, and as far as good authors are concerned, there is a gold mine awaiting the Catholic publisher who is able to cast aside worn-out methods and work along lines suited to the mentality of the day and the hour.

WHY CATHOLIC AUTHORS FAIL.

Father Talbot Smith, by his paper in the Syracuse St. John's Quarterly, has awakened interest in the question of Catholic authorship. Agnes Repplier and Louise Imogen Guiney have gently dealt with Father Smith's paper, in criticisms contributed to the November issue of the Catholic World. It will interest Father Smith, Miss Repplier, Miss Guiney and sundry others to learn that, while we relished their contributions, we decided (in our wisdom, unasked and unbidden) to give a few reasons why Catholic authors are not so successful as they might be, and why Catholic publishers must not be made suffer

more than they are entitled to suffer. And to the point:

(a) The general Catholic reader, like his non-Catholic friend, wants trash, not literature. A good serious book proves a bore.

(b) Our libraries are few and far between, and the few we have are filled with two-penny nothings.

(c) The publishers are continually polishing old wares. These they sell, and, in consequence, they do not try to sell the others.

(d) The books bought for distribution, and premiums to deserving scholars, are, for the three quarters, from non-Catholic authors, and are often not worth a place of pride.

(e) Catholic books are not sufficiently advertised in our own Catholic papers.

(f) If our Catholic teachers did not lend the help they are lending things would be ten times worse. But they can only do their share.

(g) Our Catholic publishing houses have too many favorite writers that even the serious Catholic reader does not want. Pets must be set aside when they do not please.

(h) Our young men are not taught to read Catholic books. Literature lessons ought to be practical.

(i) Young men leaving school could not, as a rule, name you three Catholic authors of the day without naming Nick Carter as the fourth.

(j) Our Catholic books cost too much, especially is this true of the poorer ones.

(k) In teaching the History of Literature, little mention is made of current Catholic books and living authors, although the boy must learn in what year Caedmon dreamed and William O'Brien visited America.

(l) Most of our histories of literature are simply catalogues of names and dates. The French are leagues ahead of us.

(m) Some of our publishing houses have not changed their catalogues since the "Year of the Big Wind."

(n) The kind of books kept in some libraries is enough to discourage a reader for all time. He imagines all Catholic books are like the cheap stuff he comes across, and so decides to unlearn his English and good manners by reading Mark Twain.

(o) Anti-Catholic authors are lauded to the skies in the daily papers. Parents subscribe for these, while no Catholic paper enters the household, or no Catholic magazine, such as the Ave Maria, with their list of good books.

(p) Most of the books are bought for the sake of the eminent printer.

(q) Ask yourself why Robert Louis Stevenson was successful in the end, and you will understand why so many writers fail.

(r) The last thing our Catholic societies think of establishing is a reading circle. Their libraries, if they have any, are small, and "A Trip Through Arkansas on a Slow Train" is one of the most popular volumes.

(s) We are no worse off than our Protestant neighbors, however. Yet they manage to sell their books, even those dealing with death-bed conversions.

(t) There is no serious movement among us to encourage the sale of Catholic books.

(u) We expect Catholic lecturers, for instance, to work for nothing.

(v) A Catholic paper is not wanted by many unless it discusses ward politics.

(w) Our Catholic societies do not try to advertise Catholic authors, by means of pamphlets and catalogues.

(x) There is a lack of love for culture.

(y) Catholic publishing houses lack vim and initiative.

(z) The last book nine-tenths of us want to buy is one that will make us better men or women.

Now, this criticism is offered in the best of faith, and we are very thankful to Father Smith, who, with his well-known moral courage, has awakened us all to our duty. Necessarily, some will not agree with all we say. We know that, but cannot help it. It is time we should remember that scores of young men are being lost through bad books, who, with their love of reading, could be saved through the instrumentality of good Catholic books. Our authors are doing well. We are holding our own in the English-speaking world, when all things are considered, and as far as good authors are concerned, there is a gold mine awaiting the Catholic publisher who is able to cast aside worn-out methods and work along lines suited to the mentality of the day and the hour.

Christmas Gifts

are always appreciated but infinitely more so when they consist of an article for personal use such as FOOTWEAR. We would suggest a handsome pair of Boots Shoes, Slipper, Rubbers, Overshoes, Gaiters, Leggings, Moccasins or Shoe Trees. These we have in the very best quality, and at prices which you will admit are most reasonable, should you favour us with a visit.

RONAYNE BROS.

485 Notre-Dame St. West

Chaboillez Square.

LORD NORTHCLEFFE AND THE I. C. R.

Periodically some Englishman comes to Canada, spends two weeks here being entertained at clubs, and then ventures an opinion on our country and ourselves. The interview they give the journalists is generally made up of words spoken between two glasses of somebody's "special." We do not wish to insinuate that it was under such circumstances that Lord Northcliffe criticized the I.C.R. and its management a little while ago, and we do not care how, when, or where he spoke. We are pleased with our government, and are sure the men responsible for its working are doing their best to please the people. When Lord Northcliffe is speaking to Canadians, he ought to know he is not dealing with the readers of the Times. The following from a contemporary we thoroughly relish and endorse:

"The recent attack on the Intercolonial made by Lord Northcliffe, and the wide publicity given his statements by Upper Canadian papers, has caused many patrons of the I. C. R. to rally to its defence in a spirited manner that is causing the management a good deal of satisfaction. Letters from prominent business men who have travelled extensively, are being received daily, these being expressions of appreciation of the train service generally and particularly of that given between Montreal, St. John and Halifax by Canada's famous train, the Maritime Express. These letters are written in many instances by men who have travelled on nearly every railroad on this continent, and who, therefore, have a keen appreciation of the comforts that tend to render pleasant a long journey by rail. Their opinions are likely to be more widely appreciated than those of Lord Northcliffe, whose unreasonable criticism has aroused so much comment. It is quite evident the Intercolonial has still many firm friends left to it, and among them those who patronize it most and know it best."

FAITHFUL WORK.

We all know what faithful work the Ancient Order and the Knights of Columbus are doing in several big cities of the United States. We understand, as well, how successfully the Knights strive and labor in St. Louis, Mo., for instance; and now we are gratified to learn that, in Green Bay, Wisconsin, the Knights of Columbus have compiled and published a Catholic reading list comprising 1150 books. The catalogue is drafted with a view to guiding Catholics in the selection of books in the public library. The Knights in New Haven, and Milwaukee have published similar lists and found the experiment of immense value. Handbooks of Catholic literature do not abound in Catholic homes, and the reading lists carefully prepared and placed in general circulation should be welcomed by those who need direction in the choice of books.

Now, there is the kind of work we like to see our Catholic societies do. Unfortunately, here in Montreal, there is too much apathy. All is not done when the evening is spent smoking and talking. Our own Catholic societies are made up of as good men and women as any other city may boast of, but we are behind in enterprise and achievement. The Catholic press in Canada receives next to no support from the Catholic societies, but the same is far from being true of the United States. When a society is sincerely Catholic, it takes a working interest in the efforts that all Catholics are making for the extension of God's Kingdom.

"THE TRAGEDY OF GROSSE-ILE."

The Quebec Daily Telegraph rightly claims that its book, "The Tragedy of Grosse Ile," should be in every Irishman's home. No more suitable present could we send one of our kinsmen or kinswomen than the self-same book. The Daily Telegraph has always fought loyally and courageously for Irishmen's rights, the world over; and there is no clearer daily in the world than

THE BEST FLOUR

18

BRODIE'S
Self Raising Flour

Save the Bags for Premiums.

Application to the Legislature.

Public notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next session, by the Rev. Attilios Ofiesh, Chahen Aboud, Essa Boosamra, Salim Boosamra, Najeeb Tabah, Fahed Tabah, Mansour Shatilla, Michael Zogayer and others, all of Montreal, to incorporate them as a religious congregation, under the name of "The Saint Nicholas Greek Syrian Orthodox Church," with power to acquire and possess movable and immovable property, to keep registers of acts of civil status, and to exercise all other rights incident to a religious corporation and for other purposes.

Montreal, 15th December, 1909.

BARNARD & BARRY,
Solicitors for Applicants.

is Quebec's favorite paper. It is a pity, too, that more Quebecers abroad do not subscribe for it. We should not want to do without it. No other paper has done for the story of the victims of Grosse-Ile what the Telegraph has done. Irishmen are renowned for their generosity, and we should appreciate a good and lasting turn. Mr. J. A. Jordan wrote the book. That is guarantee sufficient. Mr. Frank Carrel was the presiding genius in the endeavor. What other proof do we want? As we said some time ago, we hope the Telegraph will be obliged to print several editions of Mr. Jordan's book. It sells: Paper cover, \$1.00; cloth, \$1.50. Edition-de-luxe, \$3.00. Address: Daily Telegraph, Buede street, Quebec, P.Q.

NEVER TOO LATE!

The True Witness honestly and sincerely felicitates Constable John Collins over his promotion to the rank of sergeant on the city force, and hopes this is only the second of a series of steps to still higher position and emolument. All citizens, French and English-speaking, Catholic and Protestant, know Mr. Collins, and know him, and of him, very favorably. He has always done his duty in a marked way, and all our papers have often paid him the tribute of their esteem and commendation. If Montreal had three hundred officers like Mr. Collins we should hardly need a Recorder's Court. We are glad, too, to be able to say that he is one of our faithful friends, having subscribed for the True Witness for years.

The tenants on the Logan Ellis estate recently received another offer from the landlord to sell on somewhat reduced terms from what he previously proposed. The terms now offered are for first term tenants 6s 8d reduction in the 2, and second term tenants 4s 8d, interest at 3-1-2 per cent. pending sanctioning of advances. All arrears are to be wiped off and the current year's debt paid down. The tenants on portion of the estate in Carriacou district, which is inferior to other parts, are willing to buy at 5s and 7s reduction in the 2 respectively.